

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S:LSEAGLEBURGER:ML
APPROVED BY S - MR. EAGLEBURGER
S/S - MR. LUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DACCA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 238176

EXDIS TOSEC 344

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: ISRAELI REACTION TO PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON
THE PLO

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM EAGLEBURGER

DINITZ JUST CALLED TO READ ME A STATEMENT MADE BY ALON TO
KEATING TODAY. IT IS AS FOLLOWS:

"WE HAVE BEEN DISMAYED BY THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT IN HIS
PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY THAT 'THERE MUST BE MOVEMENT
BETWEEN ISRAEL AND JORDAN OR THE PLO.' THE STATEMENT IS
CONTRARY TO CLEAR UNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERN-
MENTS REGARDING THE ROLE OF THE SO-CALLED PLO.

HOWEVER, WE AGREE WITH PRESIDENT FORD'S STATEMENT THAT
'THERE MUST BE MOVEMENT TOWARD SETTLEMENT OF PROBLEMS
BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT ON THE ONE HAND AND BETWEEN
ISRAEL AND JORDAN . . . , AND THE PROBLEMS BETWEEN ISRAEL
AND SYRIA.' WE WHOLEHEARTEDLY AGREE WITH HIM THAT THERE
SHOULD BE 'CONTINUED MOVEMENT TOWARD PEACE.'

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INDEED WE ARE AWAITING SECRETARY KISSINGER'S FORTHCOMING VISIT FOR PRECISELY THIS PURPOSE.

HOWEVER, I MUST MAKE IT ABSOLUTELY CLEAR THAT THE SO-CALLED PLO IS NOT AND WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY ISRAEL AS A PARTY TO ANY NEGOTIATIONS. IN ITS COVENANT THE SO-CALLED PLO DENIES ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXISTENCE, AND IT EMPLOYS INDISCRIMINATE, MURDEROUS AND SAVAGE ACTS TO FURTHER ITS OBJECTIVES.

WE HOPE THAT THE STATEMENT REGARDING THE PLO WILL BE CLEARLY AND PUBLICLY CORRECTED."

DINITZ EMPHASIZED THAT THIS WAS A PRIVATE DEMARCHE TO US AND THAT THE GOI WILL MAKE NO PUBLIC REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT OF YESTERDAY. I TOLD DINITZ THAT IT WAS MY PERSONAL VIEW THAT THIS WAS AN EXTREMELY STRONG STATEMENT AND QUITE UNNECESSARY. I DID, HOWEVER, PROMISE TO PASS IT TO YOU SOONEST. INGERSOLL

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